



INSPIRE 3EL3 – Experiential Learning Opportunities C03 – Building a Better Canada Interession 2021

COURSE OFFERING

Spring Interession, 2021

Mode: Synchronous, online, held via Zoom

Class Dates: Tuesdays, 1-4pm, May 4 – May 25

COURSE COORDINATORS

Course Coordinator: Jeremiah Hurley, Faculty of Social Sciences (hurley@mcmaster.ca)

Co-instructors:

- Gioia Buckley, Faculty of Health Sciences (buckle@mcmaster.ca)
- David Cameron, Faculty of Social Sciences (camerd@mcmaster.ca)
- Deborah Milinkovic, Faculties of Health Sciences and Social Sciences (milinkda@mcmaster.ca)

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COURSE DESCRIPTION

Building Canada in the 19th and early 20th centuries depended importantly on investment in physical infrastructure—the canals and railroads that connected disparate regions and promoted nationhood. But building a better Canada in the 21st century demands investments in a full range of essential “capitals” including: (1) **human capital**—Canadians’ health, skills, knowledge, and abilities; (2) **social capital**—Canada’s community infrastructure that supports social relationships, trust in our institutions, and effective collective action; (3) **natural capital**—Canada’s water, air, and broader ecosystems; and (4) **digital capital**—institutions, norms, data, and regulations for a digital society. This course will examine the meanings and manifestations of these diverse capitals in Canada and explore the linkages between them and pressing social, economic, and political challenges facing Canada in the coming years.

VIRTUAL COURSE DELIVERY

To follow and participate in virtual classes it is expected that you have reliable access to the following:

- A computer that meets the performance requirements [found here](#) (see device recommendations).
- An internet connection that is fast enough to stream video.
- Computer accessories that enable class participation, such as a microphone, speakers and webcam when needed.



If you think that you will not be able to meet these requirements, please contact uts@mcmaster.ca as soon as you can. Please visit the [Technology Resources for Students page](#) for detailed requirements. If you use assistive technology or believe that our platforms might be a barrier to participating, please contact [Student Accessibility Services](#), sas@mcmaster.ca, for support.

COURSE OBJECTIVES

On completion of this course, students will have achieved a foundational understanding of:

- a. Human, social, natural, and digital capitals and their relationship to the UN Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs).
- b. The critical role these capitals play in addressing prominent social, economic, and political challenges in Canadian society.
- c. How these capitals interact to produce desirable social outcomes.
- d. Current approaches to and challenges encountered when measuring these capitals.

CLASS STRUCTURE

- Students will participate in four 3-hour sessions comprising a mixture of lecture, presentations, videos, discussion, and small-group activities.
- All sessions will be held via Zoom using both synchronous and asynchronous components.
- Classes may involve breakout sessions for small group discussion among students.
- Classes will be recorded.

ZOOM ETIQUETTE

- Students must display their full name on Zoom.
- Since this is a small class, we encourage students to keep both their microphones and cameras on to facilitate participation.

SESSION TOPICS

Session 1 (May 4)

- Introduction, diverse capitals, and their role in building a better Canada. Special focus of second half of session will be natural capital, climate change, and climate-related natural disasters

Session 2 (May 11)

- Human capital, globalization, and our future economic well-being

Session 3 (May 18)

- Social capital and managing pandemics

Session 4 (May 25)

- Digital capital, civil society, and effective democratic governance



COURSE MATERIALS AND RESOURCES

Course materials will consist of readings, podcasts, videos and related types of resources. Readings will consist of various types of journal articles, book chapters, and reports from governments, policy think-tanks, foundations and related organizations. Podcasts and videos will be drawn from a variety of sources. Components of lectures will be recorded and made available prior to class. All course materials will be available through an A2L course shell.

METHOD OF ASSESSMENT

Student assessment will be as follows:

Assignments:	45%
Class Participation:	25%
Final Essay:	30%

Assignments: Students will complete three assignments, one for each of sessions 2, 3 and 4. The assignments will include short essays, options to create a short video, and similar tasks. Each assignment will be worth 15 percent of the final grade (i.e., a total of 45 percent of your mark will be based on these assignments). Unless otherwise indicated, assignments are due at the start of class.

Participation: Participation will be based on the extent of engagement in class as represented by class attendance, preparation for class, and comments, questions, and discussion, and related activities during the class sessions.

Final Essay: Students will be required to complete a culminating essay in response to one or more questions that will draw on concepts and material covered in the course. This will be provided at the end of the last session and will be due within 48 hours.

Assignments, session readings and other elements of class preparation will be calibrated to reflect a reasonable workload.

POLICY ON MISSED WORK, EXTENSIONS, AND LATE PENALTIES

Standard McMaster policies pertaining to missed work (e.g., MSAFs) will apply. COVID-19 continues to create disruptions in all of our lives. Understanding this, extensions and late penalties will be considered and addressed on a case-by-case basis. See below regarding academic accommodations, missed work, and related issues.

ACKNOWLEDGEMENT OF COURSE POLICIES

Your registration and continuous participation to the various learning activities of *INSPIRE 3EL3* will be considered to be an implicit acknowledgement of the course policies outlined above, or of any other that may be announced during lecture or through other communication vehicles. It



is your responsibility to read this course outline, to familiarize yourself with the course policies and to act accordingly. Lack of awareness of the course policies cannot be invoked at any point during this course for failure to meet them. It is your responsibility to ask for clarification on any policies that you do not understand. The instructor reserves the right to modify elements of the course and will notify students accordingly.

ACADEMIC INTEGRITY

You are expected to exhibit honesty and use ethical behaviour in all aspects of the learning process. Academic credentials you earn are rooted in principles of honesty and academic integrity. It is your responsibility to understand what constitutes academic dishonesty.

Academic dishonesty is to knowingly act or fail to act in a way that results or could result in unearned academic credit or advantage. This behaviour can result in serious consequences, e.g. the grade of zero on an assignment, loss of credit with a notation on the transcript (notation reads: “Grade of F assigned for academic dishonesty”), and/or suspension or expulsion from the university. For information on the various types of academic dishonesty please refer to the Academic Integrity Policy, located at <https://secretariat.mcmaster.ca/university-policies-procedures-guidelines/>

The following illustrates only three forms of academic dishonesty:

- Plagiarism, e.g. the submission of work that is not one’s own or for which other credit has been obtained.
- Improper collaboration in group work.
- Copying or using unauthorized aids in tests and examinations.

AUTHENTICITY / PLAGIARISM DETECTION

Some courses may use a web-based service (Turnitin.com) to reveal authenticity and ownership of student submitted work. For courses using such software, students will be expected to submit their work electronically either directly to Turnitin.com or via an online learning platform (e.g. A2L, etc.) using plagiarism detection (a service supported by Turnitin.com) so it can be checked for academic dishonesty.

Students who do not wish their work to be submitted through the plagiarism detection software must inform the Instructor before the assignment is due. No penalty will be assigned to a student who does not submit work to the plagiarism detection software. All submitted work is subject to normal verification that standards of academic integrity have been upheld (e.g., online search, other software, etc.). For more details about McMaster’s use of Turnitin.com please go to www.mcmaster.ca/academicintegrity.

COURSES WITH AN ONLINE ELEMENT

Some courses may use online elements (e.g. email, Avenue to Learn (A2L), LearnLink, web pages, capa, Moodle, ThinkingCap, etc.). Students should be aware that, when they access the



electronic components of a course using these elements, private information such as first and last names, usernames for the McMaster email accounts, and program affiliation may become apparent to all other students in the same course. The available information is dependent on the technology used. Continuation in a course that uses online elements will be deemed consent to this disclosure. If you have any questions or concerns about such disclosure, please discuss this with the course instructor.

ONLINE PROCTORING

Some courses may use online proctoring software for tests and exams. This software may require students to turn on their video camera, present identification, monitor and record their computer activities, and/or lock/restrict their browser or other applications/software during tests or exams. This software may be required to be installed before the test/exam begins.

CONDUCT EXPECTATIONS

As a McMaster student, you have the right to experience, and the responsibility to demonstrate, respectful and dignified interactions within all of our living, learning and working communities. These expectations are described in the Code of Student Rights & Responsibilities (the “Code”). All students share the responsibility of maintaining a positive environment for the academic and personal growth of all McMaster community members, whether in person or online.

It is essential that students be mindful of their interactions online, as the Code remains in effect in virtual learning environments. The Code applies to any interactions that adversely affect, disrupt, or interfere with reasonable participation in University activities. Student disruptions or behaviours that interfere with university functions on online platforms (e.g. use of Avenue 2 Learn, WebEx or Zoom for delivery), will be taken very seriously and will be investigated. Outcomes may include restriction or removal of the involved students’ access to these platforms.

ACADEMIC ACCOMMODATION OF STUDENTS WITH DISABILITIES

Students with disabilities who require academic accommodation must contact Student Accessibility Services (SAS) at 905-525-9140 ext. 28652 or sas@mcmaster.ca to make arrangements with a Program Coordinator. For further information, consult McMaster University’s Academic Accommodation of Students with Disabilities Policy.

REQUESTS FOR RELIEF FOR MISSED ACADEMIC TERM WORK

McMaster Student Absence Form (MSAF): In the event of an absence for medical or other reasons, students should review and follow the Academic Regulation in the Undergraduate Calendar “Requests for Relief for Missed Academic Term Work”.



ACADEMIC ACCOMMODATION FOR RELIGIOUS, INDIGENOUS OR SPIRITUAL OBSERVANCES (RISO)

Students requiring academic accommodation based on religious, indigenous or spiritual observances should follow the procedures set out in the RISO policy. Students should submit their request to their Faculty Office normally within 10 working days of the beginning of term in which they anticipate a need for accommodation or to the Registrar's Office prior to their examinations. Students should also contact their instructors as soon as possible to make alternative arrangements for classes, assignments, and tests.

COPYRIGHT AND RECORDING

Students are advised that lectures, demonstrations, performances, and any other course material provided by an instructor include copyright protected works. The Copyright Act and copyright law protect every original literary, dramatic, musical and artistic work, including lectures by University instructors.

The recording of lectures, tutorials, or other methods of instruction may occur during a course. Recording may be done by either the instructor for the purpose of authorized distribution, or by a student for the purpose of personal study. Students should be aware that their voice and/or image may be recorded by others during the class. Please speak with the instructor if this is a concern for you.

EXTREME CIRCUMSTANCES

The University reserves the right to change the dates and deadlines for any or all courses in extreme circumstances (e.g., severe weather, labour disruptions, etc.). Changes will be communicated through regular McMaster communication channels, such as McMaster Daily News, A2L and/or McMaster email.